

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Maui 's Volunteer Newsletter



Kai Kanani Outreach

Ruth Langstraat, in hat, and Kathy Becklin, middle in Sanctuary shirt, went on Kai Kanani as volunteer naturalists on January 2. Ruth said, "A young man I spoke with was from Ohio. On the Kai Kanani he said, 'I thought we might see a fin or two and some spouts, but this.... Is it always this good?' I had to admit that no, we don't always get to see very young babies riding on mom's rostrum, and a full out adult breach rather close to the boat, and a large pod of spinner dolphins, and several sea turtles. We may get some of those and some not so close to the boat, but this was special, and for our first real whale watch of the season we felt very fortunate.



During whale season, as in the past, the Sanctuary volunteers are taking turns going on whale watches on the **Kai Kanani**. While on the boat, they are interacting with the guests and giving information about the whales, the Sanctuary and trying to answer whatever questions the guests ask. This is one of the favored activities and one of the perks of being a Sanctuary volunteer. Larry Boysen does the scheduling of volunteers. If you have finished your training and would like to help out on the Kai Kanani as a naturalist, contact Larry at jeep1401@gmail.com.

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SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Volunteers on Trilogy Blue`aina

It was a wonderful trip when many of the sanctuary volunteers sailed on the Trilogy Blue`aina on January 6. Robyn Walters, who is our lead volunteer for Citizen Science, led a group in learning how to do water quality testing.

The participants collected water samples, did the testing with our testing equipment and recorded the results. The photo to the right shows Robyn sharing the water quality results with the volunteers and guests aboard the catamaran. During the snorkel/dive part of the trip a lot of debris was collected both out of the water and on shore. Many folks in the water were thrilled to see Manta Rays, plenty of fish and, when on board, a variety of whales in the distance.



Volunteers Al Bayless and Robyn Walters on Trilogy Blue`aina

If you have not sailed on the Blue`aina, be sure to sign up for one of the upcoming monthly trips. See the Foundation Fodder column on the next page for more information on signing up.

Maui Ocean Center Outreach

Flo, Larry, Laura, Bill and Jeep were at the outreach table at MOC recently. They had loads of kids visit the table and stuck on lots of turtle and whale tattoos. The table runs from 9am until 1pm and we generally contact about 60+ visitors in a two hour shift. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jeep Dunning at mauijeep@gmail.com. If you are new at outreach, you can shadow an "old timer" and then volunteer regularly. We love to see new faces! As Larry says, "It's a hoot!"

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Foundation Fodder . . . By Lynette Poncin

We are at the airport! The Hawaii National Marine Sanctuary teamed up with the HIHWNMS to put a display by gate 23 at the Kahalui airport. Take a look the next time you are there. We are hoping to attract more visitors to the Sanctuary site and plan to change the display every few months to keep it fresh and interesting.



Most of you know that the Foundation has partnered with Trilogy to book all of the Blue`aina trips. January 6th Blue`aina was sold out well before the last week of December. February sold out quickly as well.

Here are the booking rules so that everyone knows... We open up the next Blue`aina on the Monday after the previous Blue`aina. We are allowed to book 50 passengers. 4 slots are held back for Reef Divers and are paid spots. Cynthia will put a couple more divers on each trip but they are considered part of the crew.

Also considered as part of the crew are two Foundation representatives. One to handle the administrative process of the sail that day and one to do water quality and share results.

We have a board prepared for the results and a 16"x32" check prepared to hand to the NonProfit of the Day for a photo op. That leaves 46 slots. Out of those, we have to leave (by contract) 10 spots open for the Corporate Donor. In some cases the Corporate Donors do not use their slots and so one week ahead of the scheduled date, we open those up for standbys. In January, we had 14 standbys listed and turned away another 10. We were able to accommodate 12 of the standbys. Keep in mind that those who are on the booking listing have paid their money up front and we cannot substitute someone else. The individual, however, can sign their boarding pass over to a friend or someone else.

When you book on Blue`aina, it is a charity donation and not refundable. No cash will be taken on the day of the sailing so if you don't have a boarding pass, don't show up hoping there will be no shows. One last note... if you go on Blue`aina frequently, and we keep the manifests so we know, we will not take an early booking unless you bring one new person that has never been before. If you do sign up with someone new, you can sign up early. This is to give more people a chance to enjoy this venture.

January 20th,

we were an aid station for the Maui Oceanfront Marathon. They anticipated 400 runners but we didn't count them...

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

Bandtail Goatfish

By Serena Neff



Bandtail Goatfish

Upeneus arge

Hawaiian: Weke pueo (translation: “to open” or “goatfish” and “owl”)

This species of goatfish is one of the more difficult to find but when found, bandtail goatfish are often in great numbers. These fish have long stream-lined bodies with two horizontal stripes: in brown and Yellow. They are the only native Hawaiian goatfish with a striped tail. The five to six bands on both the top and bottom of their tails resembles the banding of the native Hawaiian owl, the pueo, hence the name.

“Weke” is used to name many goatfish species and literally translates to “to open,” as these fish were often used in ceremonies that required an opening or releasing of some sort. Their chin barbels aid the fish in finding their squirming food in the ocean’s sandy bottom. Consuming worms, mollusks and invertebrates, bandtail goatfish can be up to twelve inches in length.

Haleakala

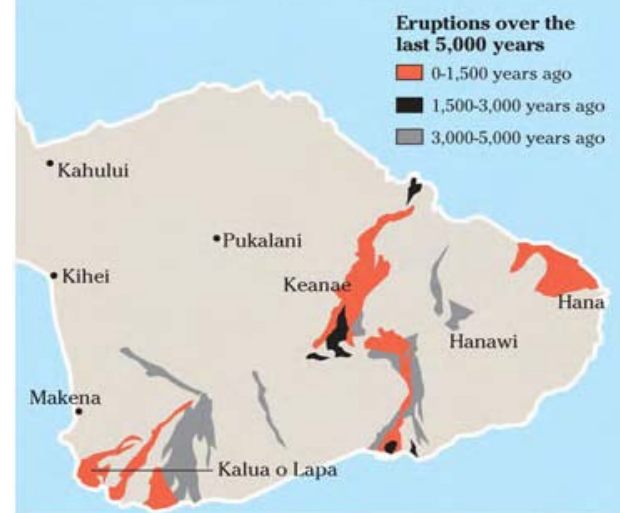
Haleakala is one of the most popular tourist destinations on Maui. Although it has not been active in centuries, it is not yet considered extinct. “This is a volcano capable of erupting again,” said David Sherrod, who conducted a study for the U.S. Geological Survey. Scientists from the Hawaiiin Volcanic Observatory continue to measure its activity. If it does erupt, it would just be an eruption of the post shield stage and not a new or rejuvenated volcano as it is no longer over, nor even close to, the “hot spot.” Since regular testing with satellites began in 1996 there has been no sign of activity. There is no indication that Haleakala will erupt any time soon.

Haleakala is one of two shield volcanos on Maui and the third largest of the Hawaiian shield volcanos. It has been active on and off for about two million years. There are differing thoughts on when it last erupted. Some believe it was around 1790, just over 200 years ago because a map made by explorer La Perouse in 1786 didn't show a lava flow, but a map made by Vancouver in 1793 shows one. But, recent carbon dating suggests earlier, maybe about 500 years ago.

The name, Haleakala, translates into “House of the Sun.”

EAST MAUI VOLCANISM

Although Haleakala has not erupted in at least 400 years, it remains technically active like Hualalai and Mauna Loa, its younger cousins on the Big Island, scientists say.



STAR-BULLETIN

SANCTUARY WHALE TALES

South Maui

*Hawaiian Islands Humpback
Whale National Marine Sanctuary
726 South Kihei Road,
Kihei, HI 96753 (808) 879-2818*

West Maui

*Whaler Village Shopping Center
Whalers Museum
2435 Ka'anapali Parkway
Lahaina, HI 96761 (808) 661-4567*

February 2013

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Note: February 16 –17 is a very busy weekend. It is Whale Day in Kihei and the weekend of Whale Trust in Lahaina. Also, the official launch of our Hawaii National Marine Sanctuary Foundation at Whaler's Village, Center Stage from 5:30-7:30 on Feb. 16. Watch for more information.

					1 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	2 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei
3	4 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	5	6 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	7 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei	8 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	9 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei
10	11 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	12	13 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	14 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei	15 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	16 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei
17	18 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	19	20 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei Volunteer Mtg. 6-8PM Kihei	21 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei	22 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina	23 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei
24	25 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	26	27 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM Kihei	28 45 Ton Whale Talk 11 AM and 2 PM Lahaina 11AM Kihei		